



Subject:	Physical Programme Update – Capital Programme and LIF
Date:	22 nd September 2017
Reporting Officer:	Gerry Millar, Director of Finance and Resources Ronan Cregan, Deputy Chief Executive
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Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The Council's Physical Programme covers a number of funding streams including the Capital Programme and LIF/BIF.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	Members are asked to – Capital Programme – <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ agree that the following project is added as a Stage 1 – Emerging Project<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Palm House, Botanic Gardens (see 3.2) – to allow the options for the redevelopment

and upgrade of the Palm House in Botanic Gardens to be examined and a funding strategy to be worked up. Members are asked to note that this does not constitute an investment decision and that Members will be kept up to date on the options

Local Investment Fund

- note the LIF project (NLIF066 – Wishing Well) which has previously been approved in principle which has been scored. Members are asked to note that this project has met the threshold and Members are therefore asked to agree that this is progressed to due-diligence (Section 3.4 and Appendix 1)

3.0 Main report

Key Issues

Capital Programme - Proposed additions to the Capital Programme

3.1 Members have previously agreed that **all** capital projects must go through a **3 Stage process** where decisions on which projects progress are taken by SP&R. Members are asked to agree to the following movements as summarised below

Project	Overview	Stage
Palm House, Botanic Gardens	To examine the options in relation to the refurbishment and upgrade of the Palm House in Botanic Gardens	Add as an Emerging Project

Add as Stage 1 – Emerging Project

3.2 **Palm House, Botanic Gardens** – The Palm House in Botanic Gardens is one of the earliest examples of a glasshouse made from curved iron and glass in the UK. The building was designed by Sir Charles Lanyon and dates back to the 1840s. The building is of significant heritage and cultural importance however over the years the condition of the building has gradually declined. Members will be aware that the adjoining Tropical Ravine in Botanic Gardens has been undergoing a £4.1m restoration over the past few years of which £2.4m was secured from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). Works on the building are completing and it is envisaged that it will be re-opened to the public early next year. The redevelopment of the Palm House, in tandem with the newly refurbished Tropical Ravine together with the Ulster Museum which recently underwent a substantial renovation programme, could potentially provide a key cultural, heritage and tourism destination helping to restore Botanic Gardens to its former glory as one of the leading Victorian parks within the UK.

3.3 **It is therefore recommended that the proposed upgrade of the Palm House at Botanic Gardens is added to the Capital Programme which will allow the options in relation to the site to be worked up and for a funding strategy to be developed including the initiation of discussions with the HLF about potential funding for the project.** Members will be kept informed of progress.

	Local Investment Fund
3.4	Members are asked to note that one LIF project which has previously been agreed for in principle funding (<i>NLIF066 - Wishing Well</i>) has now been scored by officers (see Appendix 1). This project has successfully met the minimum threshold and it is recommended that it is now progressed to the Due Diligence stage of the LIF process
3.5	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> <i>Financial</i> – LIF - £9m <i>Resources</i> – Resources from Property & Projects and appropriate departments in working up proposals in conjunction with groups.
3.6	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u> No implications
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 - LIF RAG status